

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Once Amended) A method for formulation of queries for use in accessing information from a knowledge base, said method comprising:

(a) displaying a first menu list of words or phrases;

(b) receiving a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list;

and

(c) receiving user profile information associated with a user formulating the queries;

(ed) obtaining a second menu list of words or phrases based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list and the user profile information;

(e) receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list; and

(f) combining the first selection and second selection to construct at least a portion of a query.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said obtaining (ed) comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.

3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein the query is a phrase, sentence or question.
6. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein the query is a natural language phrase, sentence or question.
7. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein said obtaining (ed) comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.
8. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein said obtaining (ed) comprises selecting the second menu list from a plurality of predetermined menu lists based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.
9. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein the at least one of the words or phrases associated with the first selection and the at least one of the words or phrases associated with the second selection are used in the query produced by said ~~formulating~~ (e)combining (f).

10. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

(fg) displaying the query produced by said ~~formulating (e)~~ combining (f).

11. (Canceled)

12. (Once Amended) In a mobile computing device having a display and at least one user input button, a method for facilitating user input, said method comprising:

(a) receiving a series of user word or phrase menu selections, the series of user word or phrase menu selections being associated with a series of menus that are presented on the display;
and

(b) constructing one or more phrases, sentences or questions from the series of user word or phrase menu selections,

wherein the user word or phrase menu selections with respect to earlier of the menus of the series of menus affects the particular words or phrases in subsequent of the menus of the series of menus, and further wherein the particular words or phrases in the subsequent of the menus is biased with respect to a user profile associated with a user of the mobile computing device.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the one or more phrases, sentences or questions being constructed by said constructing (b) are natural language phrases, sentences or questions.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein said method further comprises:

(c) displaying the one or more phrases, sentences or questions from said constructing (b).

16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein said displaying (c) operates to incrementally update the one or more phrases, sentences or questions being displayed as each of the series of user word or phrase menu selections are individually made.

17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, whereby a user is able to provide the one or more phrases, sentences or questions as user input to the mobile computing device through menu selections of words or phrases and thus without having to enter individual characters thereof.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein at least adjacent ones of the menus in the series of menus have a grammatical and/or contextual relationship.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the mobile computing device is a hand-held or wearable computing device.

20. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein said constructing (b) operates to construct the one or more phrases, sentences or questions based on the series of user word or phrase menu selections and based on one or more of user selection history, user preferences, content or application.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the series of menus are predetermined.

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein a plurality of the menus in the series of menus are dynamically determined in response to menu selections.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for retrieving information from a knowledge base for a user, said method comprising:

(a) constructing a natural language query from a series of user word or phrase menu selections, the series of user word or phrase menu selections being associated with a series of menus that are presented to the user, and a user profile associated with the user;

(b) processing the natural language query to obtain a response from the knowledge base;
and

(c) displaying the response to the user.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for retrieving pertinent information from a data source for a user, said method comprising:

(a) displaying an initial menu of words or phrases;

(b) receiving an initial user menu selection of at least one of the words or phrases of the initial menu;

(c) obtaining a subsequent menu of words or phrases based on the initial user menu selection and user profile information associated with the user;

(d) displaying the subsequent menu of words or phrases;

(e) receiving a subsequent user menu selection of at least one of the words or phrases of the subsequent menu;

(f) displaying an initial query in accordance with at least the subsequent user menu selection;

(g) determining whether additional user menu selections are desired or needed;

(h) repeating said obtaining (c) through said displaying (f) until said determining (g) determines that no additional user menu selections are desired or needed, wherein an updated query is displayed by said displaying (f) in accordance with at least the plurality of the subsequent user menu selections;

(i) obtaining a response to the updated query; and

(j) presenting the response to the user.

25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein said obtaining (i) comprises:

(i1) forming a request for the response to the updated query;

(i2) transmitting the request to a remote server from which the response is obtained; and

(i3) receiving the response from the remote server.

26. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein said presenting (j) comprises displaying the response.

27. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the words or phrases in the initial menu are concepts.

28. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the initial query and the updated query are natural language queries.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including at least computer program code for composing phrases, sentences or questions, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for displaying a first menu list of words or phrases;

computer program code for receiving a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list; ~~and~~

computer program code for receiving user profile information associated with a user selecting the first selection; and

computer program code for obtaining a second menu list of words or phrases based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list and the user profile information.

30. (Original) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein said computer program code for obtaining dynamically determines the second menu list after the first selection has been received.

31. (Original) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 29, wherein said computer readable medium further comprises:

computer program code for receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list; and

computer program code for forming a phrase, sentence or question from at least the first selection and the second selection.

32. (Original) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 31, wherein the phrase, sentence or question is a natural language phrase, sentence or question.

33. (Original) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 31, whereby the phrase, sentence or question is form through menu selections of words or phrases and thus without having to enter individual characters therefor.